

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Steve Pilot

**Date Submitted:** 03/23/2020 11:54 AM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** The city needs to place all RENT and MORTGAGES on SUSPENSION immediately. People are being forced into unemployment through no fault of their own and if they cannot make money then they cannot pay their bills. There is so much fear and anxiety right now because of the Coronavirus and the least the city can do is alleviate the financial stress before it gets out of hand and people get desperate. Thanks -Steve Pilot Venice, CA

## Communication from Public

**Name:**

**Date Submitted:** 04/14/2020 05:31 PM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** Due to the widespread loss of jobs because of the COVID-19 outbreak, many people cannot pay their rents. Please call a Special Emergency Session to address the need of tenants, workers, and the unhoused BEFORE MAY 1. We need the City Council to address these pressing concerns ASAP, specifically with a rent suspension. The eviction moratorium established by Governor Newsom does not go far enough. It requires tenants to pay back missed rent payments which will be near impossible for most wage earners, especially low-wage earners. We must implement a rent suspension for as long as needed until this crisis is under control. All Angelenos not just Corporations, Small Business, Multi Family Landlords need a Bailout. Many Angelenos do not qualify for proposed assistance programs or unemployment. We cannot afford food at the moment how we expected to pay back later, our income will not double after this pandemic is over. Garcetti setting aside grant money for the eviction defense lawyers only adds to the anxiety of vulnerable Angelenos that rent. Rise in new homeless families and individuals is inevitable under the current "moratorium" unless you Cancel Rent and Bailout Angelenos.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Veronica Becerra-Connor

**Date Submitted:** 04/14/2020 05:58 PM

**Council File No:** 00-9999

**Comments for Public Posting:** AN OPEN LETTER TO Gavin Newsom Dear LA Council Members, I would like to open with thanking you for your diligent service. As I know you are aware, the housing crisis is weighing on so many Californians. My family and I live in Culver City, CA, prior to the crisis, finding affordable or reasonably priced housing was near impossible. Our home is barely within our means and we consider ourselves fortunate. Now that Covid-19 has become a reality, the well being, safety and security of keeping our home and a roof over our children's heads is a huge concern. My husband and I own our own small business, the two of us with our one employee design elaborate events and provide live entertainment for events. Through out the year we hire 50+ performers, event staff and other various independent contractors. We love what we do and we love that we are able to pay each person we hire more than a living wage. As you can imagine, our industry was one of the first hit by this pandemic and we have been without income for two months. We were more fortunate than most to have a small amount saved and we were able to pay our rent last month. I know many would say we should've prepared better but given the cost of living in LA, we were just barely able to stay ahead of the curve. We have since run through all of our savings and this month we were forced to choose between paying rent and feeding our family, we chose our family. While we have been in strong communication with our landlord, the pressure to pay rent continues and our concern grows. We are good tenants who always pay our rent on time or early and we take good care of the property. Of course we want to pay our rent but at this point that's just not possible. We have applied for every single assistance program out there but apart from my small unemployment sum, we have yet to hear back from any government or bank entities. Our thriving business has completed vanished and we have no way to make ends meet. We appreciate everything you have done to this point to flatten the curve and help those in need but I must advocate not only for myself and my family but also for every other Californian struggling to break the glass ceiling. While the moratorium does help, it does not solve the problem of the impending doom that looms over so many but rather kicks the can down the road with an even bigger mess to face. With the economy down and no way

for most to make a living, the idea that everyone would be able to pay back rent is stretched, to say it kindly. For us we know our business will be able to make a come back but likely it won't be booming the second the crisis orders are lifted. By the time this is over in say 3 months optimistically, if we were to pay back rent, we would owe \$10k. That divided by twelve months means our rent would then increase by \$833/month, there is absolutely no way we could afford to live when this is over. For that to happen we and everyone else effected would essentially need to increase their income by 20% at least. Coming off of the pandemic and not working for months on end, I'm sure you see how that is a highly unlikely situation, that all of the sudden citizens will have to make more when most are already struggling to get by pre-Covid. And if we don't pay it, then we face eviction (which our landlord has already threatened). Obviously, our landlord is in an equally tough situation and we have a lot of empathy for what she is going through as well. Which is why I must advocate and beg for rent and mortgage freeze during this time of crisis. It's truly the only way to avoid an even larger crisis down the road. I understand that this is a seemingly impossible ask given how much negotiating needs to happen in order to make this a reality but it's the right thing to do in order to protect the homes and livelihoods of all Californians (really all of America's too!). No one should be financially burdened by a global crisis that is completely out of anyone's control but without this freeze that's exactly what will happen. Thousands of low and middle income families will lose their homes, go bankrupt or worse. Again, on behalf of my family, my business, and all the other families, small businesses and independent contractors, I beg for your help in this matter. I know my story is only one of many but i hope that you see us and that you hear us.